

C H A P T E R

5

CHAPTER 5

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

In September 1995 the statewide RAC was formed to begin work with BLM and the State of New Mexico in the development of Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in New Mexico. The RAC met numerous times, with all meetings open to the public to develop draft standard and guidelines. Following public comments on the draft standards and guidelines mailed out to over 3000 people in May 1996, the RAC revised the standards and guidelines.

This revision is the proposed action in this EIS. Input from a broad spectrum of the public including academicians, ranchers, environmentalists, elected officials, and private citizens made comments during the comment period. This was important in the development of the proposal. Members of the RAC who developed the Proposed Action (RAC Alternative) are listed in the following table.

NEW MEXICO RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL 9-95 THROUGH 8-97		
NAME	LOCATION	INTEREST
Nancy Brantley	Carlsbad	3
Celestino Gachupin	Zia Pueblo	3
Sid Goodloe	Capitan	1
Fred Gross Jr.	White Rock	2
Shannon Horst	Albuquerque	2
Pete Aguilar*	Santa Fe	3
Kenneth Heil	Farmington	3
David Kincaid	Pinon	1
Ruth Musgrave	Albuquerque	3
Frank Nordstrom	Aztec	2
Joseph Quintina	Taos	1
Sanford Schemnitz	Las Cruces	2
Buddy Shaw	Farmington	1
Alexander Thal	Silver City	3
Marvin Lee Watts	Carlsbad	1
Steve West	Carlsbad	2

*Pete Aguilar of Santa Fe was a member of the RAC from September 1995 until August 1996 when his term expired. He was replaced by Kenneth

Heil. The Resource Advisory Council consists of 15 members whose representation is balanced equally among the following three general interests:

- 1) grazing, mining, timber, off-highway vehicle and developed recreation interests
- 2) environmental organizations, archaeological and historic, and wild horse and burro interests
- 3) state and local government, Indian tribes, natural science, academicians and the public at large

On January 31, 1996 the NEPA/RMP process was initiated with a Notice of Intent published in the *Federal Register*. This notice requested public comments on the proposal to prepare an environmental document and to modify decisions in all New Mexico BLM RMPs. On May 27, 1996 a Notice of Intent second announced a total of sixteen public meetings across the state to receive comments on the draft standards and guidelines that had been mailed out to over 3,000 people. The Notice of Intent also stated that written comments would be taken and announced that

the comment period would close on June 30, 1996. Nearly 300 people signed in as attending the public comment meetings. Public meetings were held in Deming, Lordsburg, Silver City, Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Roswell, Glencoe, Carlsbad, Socorro, Truth or Consequences, Albuquerque, Grants, Gallup, Santa Fe, and Taos, New Mexico; and Antonito, Colorado. Both BLM and RAC members attended the comment meetings to receive comments on the draft standards and guidelines. A total of 276 written comments were received during the comment period.

The RAC had several meetings following the close of the comment period and they revised the draft standards and guidelines in the Proposed Action presented in Chapter 2 of this document.

In September 1996 a BLM Team (list of preparers) was selected, as listed in the following table.

LIST OF BLM PLANNING AND NEPA TEAM MEMBERS		
NAME	TEAM TITLE	OFFICE
J.W. Whitney	Project Manager	New Mexico State Office
Mark Blakeslee	Asst. Project Manager	New Mexico State Office
Robert Alexander	Technical Coordinator	New Mexico State Office
Roger Cumpian	Writer - Livestock	Socorro Field Office
Mike Howard	Writer - Vegetation, T&E Species	Caballo Field Office
Jerry Wall	Writer - Soil, Water, Air	Albuquerque Field Office
Rand French	Writer - Wildlife	Roswell Field Office
Kathy Walter	Writer - Recreation, Special Areas	Rio Puerco Field Office
Jackie Neckels	Writer - Realty, Land Use	Farmington Field Office
Brenda Wilkinson	Writer - Cultural, Historic	Socorro Field Office
Gary Stephens	Writer - Minerals, Geology	New Mexico State Office
Don Boyer	Writer - Editor	Roswell Field Office
Jeanette Pranzo	Reviewer - Economic	Colorado State Office
Roberto Costales	Reviewer - Social	Colorado State Office
Veronica Maldonado	Staff Assistant	New Mexico State Office

LIST OF BLM CONTACTS FOR DATA AND OTHER INFORMATION	
NAME	OFFICE
Sam DesGeorges	Taos Field Office
Steve Fischer	Albuquerque Field Office
Lisa Howard	Las Cruces Field Office
Link Lacewell	Carlsbad Field Office
Mark Matthews	Socorro Field Office
Tom Phillips	Las Cruces Field Office
Ray Sanchez	Farmington Field Office
John Spain	Roswell Field Office

The State of New Mexico requested to be a joint lead for this project, resulting in a Memorandum of Understanding between BLM and the state. The state team is listed below:

LIST OF STATE PLANNING AND NEPA TEAM MEMBERS	
NAME	AREA OF CONTRIBUTION
Mark Weidler	Team Lead for State
Cecilia Abeyta	Assistant Team Lead For State
John Fowler	Social, Economics, Livestock
G.B. Oliver	Social, Economics
Mike Niveson	Social, Economics, Custom, Culture, Historic
Alan Richardson	Social, Economics
Pat Quintana	Social, Economics, Custom, Culture, Historic
Alex Thal	Social, Economics, Custom, Culture, Historic
David Sanchez	Livestock
Jay Groseclose	Soil, Water, Air
Greg Fitch	Soil, Water, Air, Land Use, Minerals, Geology, Vegetation
John Bokich	Land Use, Wildlife, Minerals, Geology
Chuck Moran	Land Use, Minerals, Geology
Adam Polley	Social, Economics, Custom, Culture, Historic
Allan Vesely	Native American Interest
Ron White	Wildlife, Recreation
Noe Villarreal	Recreation

In 1997 ten RAC members' terms expired. Of the ten two members were reappointed and eight were appointed as new members. Below is the New Mexico RAC which was announced on August 20, 1997.

These RAC members will suggest any changes to the Proposed Action (RAC Alternative) based on public comments received by BLM during the ninety day comment period on the draft document.

NEW MEXICO RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTED 8-97		
NAME	LOCATION	INTEREST
Danny Charlie*	Kirtland	3
Nancy Clopton*	Hachita	1
Celestino Gachupin	Zia Pueblo	3
Gregory Green*	Santa Fe	2
Kenneth Heil**	Farmington	3
Phillenore Howard*	Santa Fe	2
Dan Lopez*	Albuquerque	3
Bob Nordstrum*	Albuquerque	2
Joseph Quintina	Taos	1
Ronnie Rardin*	Alamogordo	3
Joe Romero*	Velarde	1
Sanford Schemnitz	Las Cruces	2
Buddy Shaw	Farmington	1
Marvin Lee Watts**	Carlsbad	1
Steve West	Carlsbad	2

*New Appointments, ** Reappointments

Nine New Mexico Counties requested to be cooperators for this project resulting in a Memorandum Of Understanding with the counties. The cooperating counties are Catron, Chaves, Eddy, Grant, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, and Sierra. In addition the Navajo Nation requested to be a cooperator for this project. A Memorandum Of Understanding for cooperator status with the Navajo Nation has been prepared but has not been signed to date.

CONSULTATION

Consultation with the USFWS is required prior to initiation of any project by BLM that may affect any federally-listed special status species or its habitat.

Consultation is required by Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The required consultation with USFWS began on October 23, 1996 (see Appendix C-1).

CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER PLANS

At this time there are no known inconsistencies between any of the alternatives and any officially approved and adopted resource-related plans of other federal agencies, state and local governments or Indian tribes. Coordination and consultation will continue throughout the planning process.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE DRAFT RMPA/DRAFT EIS

Below is a partial listing of various federal, state and local agencies organizations, Indian tribes and individuals to which the draft RMPA/EIS is being sent for review and comment:

Federal Agencies

Department of Agriculture
 U.S. Forest Service
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Energy
 Office of NEPA Oversight
Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Chinle Agency
 Southern Pueblos Agency
 Eastern Navajo Agency
 Bureau of Mines
 Bureau of Reclamation
 Office of the Secretary
 National Park Service
 Fish and Wildlife Service
Environmental Protection Agency

State Agencies

Department of Agriculture
Department of Economic Development
Department of Game & Fish
Department of Tourism
Environmental Department
Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department
Governor's Office
Interstate Stream Commission
Office of Cultural Affairs
State Land Office

County Offices

County Commissions	
Bernalillo	Catron
Chaves	Cibola
Colfax	Curry
DeBaca	Dona Ana
Eddy	Grant
Guadalupe	Harding
Hidalgo	Lea
Lincoln	Los Alamos
Luna	McKinley
Mora	Otero
Quay	Rio Arriba
Roosevelt	Sandoval
San Juan	San Miguel

Santa Fe
Socorro
Torrance
Valencia

Sierra
Taos
Union

City Offices

Alamogordo	Anthony
Artesia	Bayard
Carlsbad	Carrizozo
Central	Clovis
Deming	Eunice
Farmington	Fort Sumner
Gallup	Grants
Hurley	Jal
Lordsburg	Lovington
Magdalena	Mesilla
Reserve	Roswell
Santa Rosa	Silver City
Socorro	Tatum
Tucumcari	Tularosa

Tribal/Pueblo Groups

Acoma Pueblo	Isleta Pueblo
Jicarilla Apache Tribe	Laguna Pueblo
Mescalero Apache Tribe	Navajo Nation
Navajo Tribal Council	Pojoaque Pueblo
San Juan Pueblo	San Felipe Pueblo
San Ildefonso Pueblo	Santa Clara Pueblo
Santa Ana Pueblo	Taos Pueblo
Zia Pueblo	Zuni Pueblo

Other Groups

Albuquerque Production Credit Association
Albuquerque Wildlife Federation
Black Range Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.
Center for Wildlife Law
Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties
Committee of Wilderness Supporters, Inc.
Concerned Citizens del Norte
Continental Divide Trail Society
Deming-Luna County Chamber of Commerce
Dona Ana County Associated Sportsmen, Inc.
El Paso Group of Sierra Club
Forest Guardians
Lighthawk
National Audubon Society
National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Mexico State University

New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association

New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau
 New Mexico Public Lands Council, Inc.
 New Mexico Natural History Institute
 New Mexico Land Use Alliance
 New Mexico Wilderness Study Committee
 New Mexico Woolgrowers Association
 New Mexico Oil and Gas Association
 Northern Wilderness Watch
 Northern New Mexico Stockman Association
 People for the West
 Public Lands Action Network
 Randal Davey Audubon Center
 San Juan Basin Livestock Association
 Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society
 Santa Fe Group Sierra Club
 Sierra Club -Rio Grande Chapter
 Southeastern New Mexico Grazing Association
 Southern New Mexico Group Sierra Club
 Southwest Environmental Center
 Southwest Consolidated Sportsmen
 Sunland Brittany Club
 Sunwest Bank
 Texaco Exploration
 Tri-State Navajo Extension Service
 University of New Mexico Mountaineering Club
 Washington Public Land Coordinator
 Wilderness Society
 Wildlife Management Institute
 Wildlife Legislative Council
 Yates Petroleum Corp.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (S&WCD)

Border S&WCD
 Caballo S&WCD
 Canadian River S&WCD
 Carlsbad S&WCD
 Carrizozo S&WCD
 Central Curry S&WCD
 Central Valley S&WCD
 Chaves S&WCD
 Ciudad S&WCD
 Claunh-Pinto S&WCD
 Colfax S&WCD
 Coronado S&WCD
 Cuba S&WCD
 DeBaca S&WCD
 Deming S&WCD
 East Rio Arriba S&WCD
 East Tarrant S&WCD
 Edgewood S&WCD
 Grant S&WCD
 Guadalupe S&WCD
 Hidalgo S&WCD

Hagerman-Dexter S&WCD
 La Union S&WCD
 Lava S&WCD
 Lea S&WCD
 McKinley S&WCD
 Mesa S&WCD
 Mora-Wagon Mound S&WCD
 Northeastern S&WCD
 Otero S&WCD
 Penasco S&WCD
 Quemado S&WCD
 Roosevelt S&WCD
 Salado S&WCD
 San Juan S&WCD
 San Francisco S&WCD
 Santa Fe-Pojoaque S&WCD
 Sierra S&WCD
 Socorro S&WCD
 Southwest Quay S&WCD
 Taos S&WCD
 Tierra y Montes S&WCD
 Upper Chama S&WCD
 Upper Hondo S&WCD
 Ute Creek S&WCD
 Valencia S&WCD
 Western Mora S&WCD

Ranch Operators

Those permittees/lessees who signed in at a scoping meeting, sent written comments during the scoping period, or requested to be on the EIS mailing list.